

## GREAT ACTIVITY

Characterizes the Present Situation at Key West, Fla.

CITY IS ESSENTIALLY CUBAN

IN ITS SYMPATHIES AND GREATLY SO IN POPULATION, MAINLY COMPOSED OF CIGAR MAKERS. GREAT INTEREST MAIFESTED IN THE BIG WHITE WARSHIPS LYING AT ANCHOR IN THE HARBOR—MARTIAL CONDITIONS PREVAIL—NEWS FROM HAVANA ANXIOUSLY AWAITED.

Correspondence of the Associated Press.

KEY WEST, Fla., March 8.—An atmosphere of war has taken a firm grip on this little sun-kissed island. All day long a restless throng veers from the main streets to the water-front to see if the big white warships are still lying peacefully at anchor in the harbor.

When they find that the fleet has not been ordered to Cuba or elsewhere these restless beings pass on their way. Others take their places. At night swarthy cigar-makers, tired with their incessant rolling through the day, throw themselves lazily on logs that lie on piers. They look out at the ships and talk among themselves in that soft Spanish tongue of the times when they hope those black guns will belch forth their leaden visitations upon the enemies of Cuba. Key West is essentially Cuban in its sympathies and greatly so in its population. These groups on the docks are merely types of other groups that are gathered on street corners, in cafes and throughout the straggling city, all eagerly debating when war will be declared.

As the sun goes down and the cigar-maker takes a last look at the glistening sides of the stately ships, reflected in the dark blue water by the sun's setting rays, the man-of-war's launches begin to flit merrily to and fro. Their whistles shriek noisily and the sailors shout, hearing this warning, to get aboard, come running down the quays and tumble into their tiny craft. If there is no officer with them you can often hear the sailors singing "chanteys" until the twinkling lights of the launch are lost in the glare of electric illumination that shimmers round the ship to which the men belong.

"Naval or newspaper?" is the query that always follows an introduction nowadays. What with so many "war" correspondents and naval officers in town it is often hard for the stray tourist or commercial man to find a bed. One can hardly walk a block without meeting either a blue-jacket, marine or officer. The piazza of the hotel where Admiral Sicard makes his headquarters is simply bristled with dark blue uniforms and white caps from early morning till late at night.

At La Brea, the great pleasure resort of Key West, where dances are held twice a week in a hall that looks directly out on the gulf and its keys, and where, when the music ceases, you can hear the waves rippling up against the Bria's wooden piles—there is always a gallant galaxy from the senior arm of the service. Here dark-eyed señoritas and genuine American girls trip gaily over the polished floor with strapping young cadets or lieutenants who wear the much-coveted "naval" beard. The army barracks also furnishes its contingent of officers. If war were to be declared suddenly or if the fleet were unexpectedly ordered away on one of the Bria's dance nights, there would ensue a scene very similar to that which made the hall on the eve of the battle of Waterloo memorable.

With this influx of naval and newspaper element Cayo Hueso, as Key West is called by most of the residents, is reaping a harvest of shekels as well as of excitement. When the boats from Havana come in about half the population is on hand to meet them. A sea of black and white faces is upturned to the passengers at the arrival of the train. "What news?" is shouted in Spanish and English from a score of throats. "All is quiet," is the response which has always come up to the time of writing. The sea of faces melts away and people go to their homes, muttering: "By the next boat we shall hear of the riot." But the riot in Havana has not come, and the little colored bootblacks are still shining payal shoes with a peaceful laziness that betrays the fierce combat with which they regale their customers.

Since the days when northern soldiers built a road and a fort here, and then waited patiently for the engagement which never came, the people of Key West have had no opportunity to realize how essential their island is to the commencement or continued existence of war. The martial conditions which now prevail excite many a larger soul to a state of ferment. It is safe to say that even if the international difficulty dies a-borning it will be months before Cayo Hueso resumes its normal peacefulness.

## SENATOR PROCTOR'S TRIP

To Cuba—Interesting Talk With Col. Parker, His Travelling Companion.

NEW YORK, March 10.—A special to the Evening World from Key West, Fla., says:

Among the passengers on the Olivette from Havana to-day was Senator Proctor, of Vermont, who has been making a study of Cuba and the Cubans. With him was Colonel M. M. Parker, of Washington. As soon as Senator Proctor had registered he sent up his card to Admiral Sicard. He was shown to the admiral's room and was escorted with him for two hours. The object of the interview presumably is to deliver the admiral some messages from Commander Converse, of the Montgomery.

Colonel Parker said to an Evening World reporter: "The senator's trip to Cuba was merely to satisfy himself as to the real merits of the Cuban question. It has no political significance whatever. The famine, suffering and awful deaths among the reconcentrados is somewhat almost indescribable. The Alcide de Matanzas told me that 55,000 persons had died of starvation in that city during the last year and that 5,000 had died during February.

"Inward of the hospital at Matanzas there are one hundred Cubans, most of them sleeping on the floor. We spent a half hour at the hospital and during that time three of the patients in that ward died. Blanco's order modifying 'Weyler's reconcentrados' edict has not gone into effect, but when it does I do not believe it will help matters any. Around every town is a trocha. Any citizen who walks outside of it is liable to be shot by a Spanish sentry. Blanco's order permits them to go outside the trocha for a few hours every day.

## Drunk

Absolutely and permanently cured in 9 days by a new scientific and invigorating treatment. No poisons, no injections, no restraint. Can be given freely. No "free treatment" scheme. For circulars write to

R. A. GUNN, M.D., 41 East 21st Street, New York City.

## Annual Sales over 6,000,000 Boxes

## BEECHAM'S PILLS

FOR BILIOUS AND NERVOUS DISORDERS

such as Wind and Pain in the Stomach, Giddiness, Fullness after meals, Headache, Dizziness, Drowsiness, Flushing of Face, Loss of Appetite, Constipation, Bloating on the Skin, Cold Chills, Disturbed Sleep, Frightful Dreams and all Nervous and Trembling Complaints.

THE FIRST DOSE WILL GIVE RELIEF IN TWENTY MINUTES. Every sufferer will acknowledge them to be

A WONDERFUL MEDICINE.

BEECHAM'S PILLS, taken as directed, will quickly restore females to complete health. They promptly remove obstructions or irregularities of the system and cure Sick Headache, For a

Weak Stomach

Impaired Digestion

Disordered Liver

IN MEN, WOMEN OR CHILDREN

Beecham's Pills are

Without a Rival

And have the

LARGEST SALE

of any Patent Medicine in the World.

25c. at all Drug Stores.

Jas. T. &amp; Co.

but does not remove the sentries, and so long as they remain Cubans are not going to venture outside.

Every American in Cuba now is watched as though he were a criminal. The Spaniards hate us and do not hesitate to say so. EVERY ONE IN HAVANA NOW KNOWS THAT THE MAINE WAS BLOWN UP. SPANARDS NO LONGER DENY IT. THEY DO NOT SEEM TO BE VERY SAD OVER IT, EITHER.

"Are we going to have war? Well, if we don't, I shall be surprised."

Colonel Parker said all the American consuls in Cuba are doing their best in the distribution of relief supplies, except Consul Magar at Cienfuegos, who, the colonel said, denied that there was much suffering, and who seemed to be in sympathy with the Spaniards.

Prosperous Times in Berkeley.

Special Dispatch to the Intelligencer.

MARTINSBURG, W. Va., March 10.—

W. O. Nicklas has sold to the Standard Lime and Stone Company one hundred acres of land near town, at \$125 an acre, aggregating \$12,500. The purchaser will extend their already extensive stone quarries here, so as to include the limestone deposits on the land. The deal is one of importance to this place, since it will probably result in the continuation for an indefinite time of work at the quarry, whereby between 150 and 200 men are employed.

Live stock is bringing unusually high prices at the public sales throughout this county. Horses which sold with difficulty a year or so ago at \$25 each, now bring from \$75 to \$150 and some go still higher. Cows average over \$40 a head and sheep about \$7. Calves and other young stock are scarce at high prices.

Send your address to H. F. Bucklen & Co., Chicago, and get a free sample box of Dr. King's New Life Pills. A trial will convince you of their merits. These pills are easy in action and are particularly effective in the cure of Constipation and Sick Headache. For Malaria and Liver troubles they have been proved invaluable. They are made of the best of the most purely vegetable. They do not weaken by their action, but by giving tone to the stomach and bowels greatly invigorate the system. Regular size 25c per box. Sold by Logan Drug Co., druggists.

FINANCE AND TRADE

The Features of the Money and Stock Markets.

NEW YORK, March 10.—Money on call easy at 10 1/2 per cent; last loan 1 per cent. Prime mercantile paper 4 1/2 per cent. Sterling exchange weak with actual business in bankers' bills at \$1 3/4 for demand and at \$1 3/8 for 60 days. Posted rates \$1 2/4 for 30 days. Commercial bills \$1 1/2 for 60 days. Silver certificates 54 1/2 cts. Bar silver 54 1/2 cts. Mexican dollars 44 1/2 cts. Government bonds strong. State bonds dull. Railroad bonds weak.

To-day's stock market showed a further contraction in the volume of dealings and an apathetic tone in the trading which indicated the prevailing disposition to refrain from speculative activity until conditions became more settled. There is continued uneasiness regarding the Cuban situation, which finds its reflection in the large offerings of securities on any substantial advance. It is the evident sentiment, also, that the present conditions, so far as they are known, do not warrant a further violent decline in prices. There was a strenuous attempt in the early dealings to-day to mark up prices with the purpose of pinching small bear traders and probably also for the purpose of realizing at the higher level.

This maneuver, which proved successful yesterday and Tuesday, brought such abundant offerings that it was soon abandoned and the bears retained control of the field for the rest of the day. A small amount of arbitrage buying for London account aided in the early resistance to the decline, and the strength of special stocks tended to the same end. As was well supported in anticipation of the dividend payment, which was at the rate of five per cent per annum, though the increase over the recent rate was called an extra dividend. The strength in St. Paul, compared with the other grangers, drew it and Burlington together and their prices crossed during the day. St. Paul yielded in the final dealings and fell to the lowest of the day. Tobacco was made a strong feature of the market, which the speculators, in its tone was, however, decidedly feverish. Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Chicago and St. Louis underwrote a remarkable series of fluctuations, as low as 41 1/2 and as high as 41, apparently due to a contest between rival speculators to uncover each other's margin. The stock closed unchanged. The unsettled and uneasy tone on foreign exchange, especially the weakness of Spanish 4s in London and Paris, helped materially to defeat the effort to advance prices. The continued influx of gold failed to have any effect in sustaining the market. Neither did it save the foreign exchange market from falling an additional fraction. There was a perceptibly easier tone in the rates for call money and loans at the close were made at 1 1/2 per cent. Lenders are still loath to make time loans. A large part of to-day's business was attributed to Washington account. There is no doubt that the bears employed the usual channels for Washington selling for the sake of effect and they accompanied it to-day by the circulation of sensational rumors regarding developments in the Cuban situation. Because of last week's Washington selling, previous to the publication of the news of Consul General Lester's recent recall, the market is extremely sensitive to any demonstration from that quarter. To-day's net declines are about a point or over all through the list and effectually wipe out the advance of yesterday and the day before.

Bonds were weak throughout the day in sympathy with stocks, the specula-

live issues leading the decline. Total sales \$1,665,000.

U. S. new 4s and the old 4s coupon advanced 1/2 and the 6s 1/2 bid.

The total sales of stocks to-day were 283,400 shares.

Evening Post's London financial cablegram:

The stock markets here remained quiet to-day during the progress of the settlement. Americans were lifelessly dull.

BONDS AND STOCK QUOTATIONS.

U. S. new 4s reg. 123 1/2

do coupon 123 1/2

U. S. 4s 119 1/2

do coupon 119 1/2

U. S. 6s 119 1/2

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212,162 bushels; spot dull; No. 2, 31 1/2;

options closed 3 1/2 net higher; May

closed at 3 1/2.

Hay dull. Hops steady. Hides firm.

Leather firm.

Beef firm. Cuts quiet. Lard

steady; western steamed 5 1/2; refined

steady. Pork dull. Tallow steady.

Cottonseed oil steady. Rosin steady.

Turpentine steady. Rice steady. Molasses

steady.

Coffee, options opened steady; closed

barely steady at 59 1/2 points net lower;

sales 17,600 bags, including May at 5 3/8.

Sugar, raw steady; refined quiet.

BALTIMORE—Flour dull. Wheat

dull; spot and month 99 1/2; 99 1/2; May

31 1/2; 31 1/2; receipts 31,815 barrels;

exports 16,000 barrels. Corn firm; spot

and month 33 1/2; 33 1/2; May 33 1/2; bid;

options 33 1/2; 33 1/2; exports 146,621

bushels. Oats steady; No. 2 white 34 1/2;

35c; No. 2 mixed 32 1/2; receipts 4,000

bushels. Rye firm; No. 2 nearby 5 1/2

65 1/2; No. 2 western 64 1/2; receipts

11,700 bushels. Hay steady. Butter

firm and unchanged. Eggs quiet

and unchanged. Cheese steady and un-

changed.

PHILADELPHIA—Wheat weak and

1/2 lower; contract grade March 99 1/2

1/2; April, May and June nominal.

Corn firm; No. 2 mixed March 34 1/2

34 1/2; April, May and June nominal.

Oats firm; No. 2 white March 33 1/2

33 1/2; April, May and June nominal.

Butter easier; fancy western creamery

20 1/2; do prints 22c. Eggs dull but

fresh; nearby and western 11c.

Cheese steady; New York factory full

cream choice 5 1/2; do fair to good 7 1/2

5 1/2.

CINCINNATI—Flour quiet. Wheat

dull; No. 2 red 97c. Corn firm; No. 2

mixed 31 1/2; 31 1/2; Oats firm; No. 2

mixed 23 1/2; Rye firm; No. 2, 5 1/2.

Lard steady at 50c. Bulkmeats steady at

50c. Bacon quiet at 50c. Whisky

quiet at 40c. Butter quiet.

Sugar firm. Eggs steady at 5 1/2. Cheese

steady.

TOLEDO—Wheat lower and easy;

cash and May 98 1/2. Corn quiet and

easy; No. 2 mixed 21 1/2. Oats dull but

steady; No. 2 mixed 25c. Rye dull but

steady; No. 2, 5 1